

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY: Germany (Russian Zone)

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DATE DISTR. 29 NOV 49

SUBJECT Russian Troops in the Vicinity of Schmerin

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1 ACQUIRED

the Vicinity of Scherwin

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2. Six T 34 type tanks were seen in the fields outside of Brihel (M54/T67) being driven in formation. They seemed to be receiving directions since they all suddenly turned together, first to the left and then to the right and then continued to proceed in the same direction. This movement was repeated several times.

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3. Near the road which runs from Schwerin to Brühl, at a point lying between Holzendorf (M54/T57) and Brahlstorf (M54/TL3), a unit was seen setting up a pontoon bridge across the river Warnow. The unit consisted of about twelve officers and sixty men. The officers wore shoulder patches which were intertwined with red and the men all wore blue fatigues.

4. The following vehicles belonged to the above unit:

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tricks:

passenger cars:

The trucks used to transport the pontoons had a particularly long chassis and their body was built in such a manner as to slide the pontoons in upside down without their having to be tied down in any way.

5. The pontoons were unloaded from eight of the trucks and carried to the water's edge. They could not have weighed very much since ten men were easily able to remove them from the trucks. The pontoons were painted dark green and were

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marked 7/I to 7/IV and 9/1 to 9/IV. Beams which were about ten meters long were then used to set the pontoons down into the water sideways. The pontoons were about 7 m long, 2.50 m wide and 1.60 to 1.80 m high. They were anchored by means of kedge anchors facing across the river, after which beams and boards were laid across them. The boards were then made fast to the beams by means of clamps and a kind of ferrule screw. Two such bridges were built lying alongside each other. The Narow is about 20 m wide at this point. The trucks were driven back and forth across the bridges several times. The whole operation, i.e. assembling the bridges and disassembling them, lasted about two and a half hours, giving the impression that a unit with considerable previous experience was involved. [] believes that these pontoons are kept in Damgarten. The same unit was seen practicing over the Stepenitz river near M. Eichsen (M54/T37). 25X1

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